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**COMMENTS ON PROGRAMMATIC EIR****(By Joe Pandit, 5077 Woodbrae Court, Saratoga, CA 95070. Ph: 408-265-2600)**

Whatever alternative is selected, it would take at least 15 to 20 years to implement it. What need to be done right now is to adopt water marketing plan with the provisions similar to stated below. By adopting these kind of provisions, it is possible that we may be able to meet the urban and environmental needs during the drought periods in next 15/20 years and hopefully by that time the technology would bring down the cost of developing recycled water so that the urban users may not have to rely on Delta and there may not be need to implement any of the three CalFed alternatives.

Here are the suggestions

- (1) Prepare a random ranking list of all the farm units which contract water directly with the state and the federal governments. Once the list is prepared, it will not be altered; any new entity will be added at the bottom of the list.
- (2) In the year, when the water is needed to meet urban or environmental needs, go to the list in the order and ask if the farm unit is willing to sell water. If not, go to next unit. Continue this process until enough farm water is available for sale. Those farm units which decline to participate will have to wait for their turn to sell water until the entire list is exhausted and the new cycle begins. When next time the water is needed, continue from the list from the point where you had stopped previously.
- (3) The farm unit can negotiate any price with the buyer. However, 50% of the profit from the water sale will be deposited in the reserve fund that will be exclusively used to implement measures to improve Delta water quality.
- (4) In order to participate in water marketing, each farm unit will be required to adopt Best Management Practices to reduce water consumption and to reduce the polluted farm runoff entering the Delta waters.

In future, the urban areas will have to rely on the recycled water as one of the major water source. In the mean time, the above described arrangement may provide for water deficits during the drought periods. It is entirely possible that no major construction work may be needed in the Delta.

916-654-9780